

Murder in Nicaragua Strikes Close To Home

By Jennifer Viereck

Editor's note: The April 28 murder of Ben Linder in San Jose de Bocay, Nicaragua, shocked many in the U.S. It put the spotlight on both this country's financial support for the Contras who killed him, and the work being done by people like Linder to offset suffering in the war-torn country.

A San Francisco native, Linder was raised and educated in Oregon. According to the Berkeley-based group TECNICA, he moved to Nicaragua in 1983 where he worked for the Nicaraguan Appropriate Technology Group (NICAT) as an engineer installing power lines and generators in rural areas.

At the time of his death, Linder was

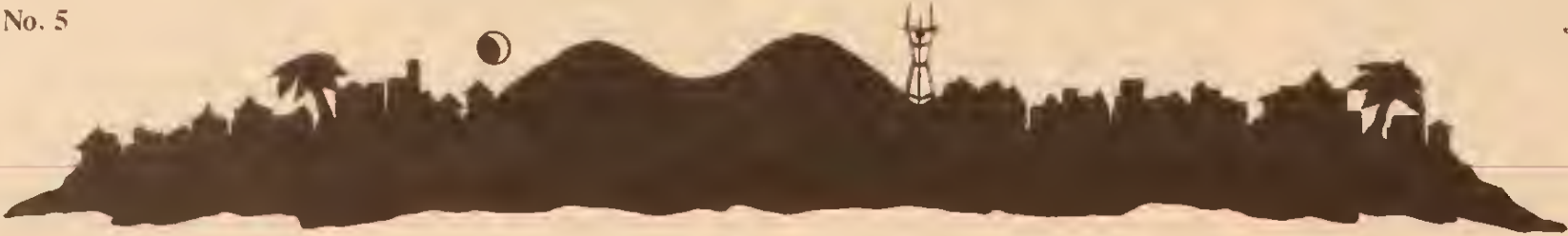
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The late Ben Linder is shown here at work on a rural electrification project in the El Cua region of Nicaragua. He was murdered near here by Contras a short time after this photo was taken. PHOTO BY BARBARA ATKINSON

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THE NOE VALLEY VOICE



A Noe Valley resident named Sonda is upset over traffic danger at the intersection at Sanchez and 26th, so she's taking it to the streets... with paint and roller. PHOTO BY SALLY SMITH

White-Line Warrior Stops Traffic on Sanchez Street

By Denise Minor

After years of hegging the city to put a four-way stop at the intersection of Sanchez and 26th streets, a longtime Noe Valley resident has finally taken things into her own hands... literally.

Sonda, a neighborhood artist/activist of such high visibility she only goes by her first name, took paintbrush in hand just before dawn May 18 and painted white lines across the street pavement, making pedestrian crosswalks at all sides of the intersection.

"We want this through-traffic slowed down," said Sonda, who owns one of Noe

Valley's mini-landmarks, the colorfully painted and tiled Victorian at 1316 Sanchez St. "And we're getting no satisfaction whatsoever from our public stewards."

For almost a decade, neighbors have complained that motorists use Sanchez as a thoroughfare, often speeding through the intersection, which just has stop signs on 26th. They say the sounds of screeching brakes, crunching metal and angry voices provide a constant corner refrain and that fender-benders occur on a daily basis.

One reason the intersection's a

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Think Small Business, Say Noe Valley Entrepreneurs

By Manica Levra

Who hasn't dreamed of owning a business? A specialty store or service on which to stamp your imprint, where you'd make all the decisions and have no one to answer to.

But being in charge isn't easy and running any business involves endless headaches: long hours, finding and keeping good help, too-short leases, late or damaged shipments. And don't forget making a living, making a profit, and having time left to concentrate on anything other than the energy drain you created for yourself.

Much space in these pages has been devoted recently to businesses that have closed, along with speculation on what will replace them. But Noe Valley still has plenty to offer its residents, including a

string of new enterprises. Following are profiles of just a few small businesses in the neighborhood. Some, like Southside Paper, bear familiar names but are under new management and have added merchandise. Others, like the Mitre Box, have had a facelift plus a shift in emphasis. Each of them is run by hard-working individuals intent on serving their neighborhood and maintaining its uniqueness.

Stop by and check them out. Your support can make the difference between a main shopping street filled with personality or one lined with chain stores. As Assemblyman Art Agnos said a few months ago at a business forum in San Francisco, "Promote creativity and the entrepreneurial spirit. Small business, after all, has provided the majority of new jobs for the past few years. The time when we can take business for granted is long gone."

Andiamo
649 Diamond St. at Elizabeth
282-0081

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 10-7, Sat. 10-4, closed Sun. and holidays

Andiamo means "let's go" in Italian. After Noe Valley gets a taste of the take-out food prepared in this gourmet deli, it should become a household word in the neighborhood.

Owners Dan Forchione and Tom DiSerio opened Andiamo a month and a half ago in the corner storefront formerly occupied by another deli (Nuccio's), but they stress there's no connection between the two. The new shop is filled with all the makings for mouth-watering meals or snacks, and is also ideal for gifts. You crave oil-cured Italian olives, homemade meat lasagna, pâté, truffles, caviar? Andiamo's got it. Someone's on a diet? Try honey-spiced chicken wings, cold cuts,

stuffed grape leaves or breast of veal. Need a kitchen-warming present? Take some wine in a wicker pourer or, if you're feeling magnanimous, fill a basket with a salami, jar of antipasto, can of clams, dry pasta, olive oil, and *torrones*, Italian nougat candy. Or choose from clever inedibles such as refrigerator magnets, mugs, cookbooks, and wind chimes. How about a quick cup of coffee and a sticky bun or muffin? They're here and can be enjoyed at a table outside.

The selection can be overwhelming, but ex-New Yorkers Forchione and DiSerio are eager to help build or enhance a meal, cater your parties on a to-go basis ("Just give us two days' notice"), and put together gift baskets for any occasion. They're delighted with our friendly and voluble residents, a relief from the

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A Noe Valley Resident's Memories of Ben Linder

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working as the volunteer director for the Cua Bocay Integrated Development Project. In that capacity, he designed and built a portable hydroelectric generator that was about the size of a double bed. He adapted the system so that residents could repair it with locally-made parts instead of imported pieces.

The morning Linder was killed, he and five Nicaraguan companions were preparing to measure the water flow of a stream in nearby San Jose de Bocay where they were going to build a similar

rum. Ben was one of those people you meet once, and always remember.

I found myself in Nicaragua for a short wild week of meetings with a wide range of officials, specialists and just plain folks. After six years of very single parenting, I needed an experience that would both awaken the adult in me and provide insight into something that mattered.

I heard of a California delegation to Nicaragua that expressed my needs: a small group of individuals who were not

during our travels. Because of Ben's work in bringing electricity to communities never before exposed to the wonders of the lightbulb, he was often beyond the reach of telephones as well. He tried to call his family every two weeks, but this time it had been a month or more.

In Managua where we first inquired, we got reassurances and a few names and numbers to try as we headed north. Ultimately we met Ben by accident in a little regional office in Matagalpa (where his wake was later held). He was surprised and delighted to see us, and waited through our meeting to accompany us for the rest of the day. We walked through the dusty streets of Matagalpa, in a swarm of laughing children. The schools were closed, and everyone over the age of 10 seemed to be away picking coffee in the annual effort to get the crop past the Contras to market.

Ben Linder was a slight, unassuming, gentle man. The children did not know him as a man with a dream of bringing the 20th century to war-ravaged farm towns. They knew him as a funny man who taught them juggling, who had donned a clown suit and ridden his unicycle through the streets yelling, "Death to Measles," as a Pied Piper leading parades of children to inoculation centers. (In 1979, 50 percent of the infants in Nicaragua died of childhood diseases. Now, 46 percent of the war victims are children.)

Ben's humor and simplicity touched me deeply. We stood on street corners, giving sips of our sodas to 4-year-olds in incongruous G.I. Joe tee shirts.

Ben was starved for information from home, still hopeful. How was the U.S. press portraying the significance of the new Nicaraguan constitution? Did we grasp the unconquerable pride of *campesinos* defining their own destiny and values for the first time? What was happening in the capital (with its choked buses, food and water shortages, and many of the 250,000 displaced by the war)? What was the response to the visit of the Contadora delegation two days before, in Managua? In the U.S.?

We were inspired by his positive outlook, instructed by his broad knowledge of Nicaraguan history and culture. He understood completely our first-time frustration, and rewarded our enthusiasm. At dinner he told us funny and heartening anecdotes late into the night, described in detail his unique project of building mini-hydroelectric plants in small mountain streams. He described the simple joy of sitting alone and unlauded on a hill one night, watching the lights burn for the first time in a town that in 1986 had never plugged in a radio. His message was simple. "Anything that you can do needs to be done. Don't let anything come between you and your dreams. Just pick up the tool of your choice and get started."

I asked him about the bizarre situation his dream had placed him in: while trying to turn back the tide of years of U.S. neglect and exploitation in Central America, he was now under fire from our guns. How did he balance the obvious dangers with his simple desire to do his best each day? Ben laughed and said, "Here I know exactly who my enemies are. At home, you will never be sure."

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San Francisco 94114

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They knew him as a funny man who taught them juggling, who had donned a clown suit and ridden his unicycle through the streets yelling, "Death to Measles."

generator. Various human rights groups later reported that he was writing instructions or measurements on a pad of paper when a band of Contras launched a grenade from about 30 feet away. Linder's legs were severely injured in the blast, but it was a close-range gunshot to the head that actually ended his life. Two of his companions were also killed, and the other three escaped.

What follows is the personal account of Noe Valley resident Jennifer Viereck, who met Linder while traveling in Nicaragua on an educational tour organized by the Nicaraguan Information Center in Berkeley.

I met Ben Linder just once, in January of this year, and spent an afternoon and evening with him—strolling the streets of sleepy Matagalpa, eating spicy shish kebabs for dinner, drinking Nicaraguan

aligned with any organization or political agenda, but who were all seriously seeking answers about what our country was doing in Central America.

Nicaragua had just signed its new constitution, drafted with the participation of every organized segment of society. It was ratified by the legislature, representing seven of the 12 political parties active in Nicaragua. Here was a tiny, hopelessly unendowed country of 3½ million, standing on the brink of history as my own country had, some 200 years earlier. Picture the Boston Tea Party hurling bananas into the harbor. Picture Paul Revere with a machete and a bicycle, awakening his neighbors to the possibility of hope.

One of our group had known Ben Linder from infancy, and had kept in contact with his family since they left San Francisco about 15 years ago. Ben's mother Elizabeth asked us to inquire about him

will be filled with businesses we need in the area. This is a lovely place to live in the city, and I'd like to see it thrive.

Kim Bullis
Clipper Street

Senatorial Praise

Editor:

I was very pleased to learn that the Noe Valley Voice is celebrating its 10th anniversary, and I would like to extend my congratulations.

The newspaper has truly become the "voice" of the community. You and the entire staff are to be commended for consistently producing a quality effort.

I look forward to another 10 years of fine publication.

Milton Marks
San Francisco State Senator

Warming to Swami

Editor:

Thank you for keeping us informed about our new neighbors ("Quiet Swami Settles Down by J-Line," May 1987 issue). On sight the Swami's presence was alarming. Upon reading your article disarming. Upon meeting him charming.

Anne O. Gillies
Church Street

Letters

The Loss of Little Bell

Editor:

To say I miss Little Bell Market is an understatement. I've been a Noe Valley resident since 1973, was physically disabled in '78. I patronized Little Bell because it was convenient with easy parking and the staff was warm, friendly and caring. Over the years they became my friends. I could dash in and easily find what I needed.

There are no accommodations for the disabled at Big Bell. It's a nice store, but it's impersonal and crowded. It does not serve older disabled people. Surf Super was excellent in this respect. The action of relating one on one—knowing people by their names—is important in a neighborhood like Noe Valley.

I can still go out of the area to shop, but I try to patronize the local businesses. We've lost so many recently, and the variety stores and the markets were our biggest losses. I hope the empty stores

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Comerford Alley is cleaner than it was in this photo snapped some months ago, thanks to a city SWAP team. And the thoroughfare may soon be free of illegally parked cars.
PHOTO BY TOM WACHS

City Starts to Care for Upgraded Comerford Alley

By Denise Minor

Comerford Alley is a step closer to becoming a fire lane, but the problem is, no one seems to know exactly what that means.

On May 21 the city board of supervisors' Public Works Committee approved designating the passageway, which joins Church to Sanchez between 27th and Duncan streets, a fire lane.

If approved by the full board at its June 1 meeting, Comerford neighbors whose garages exit on the alley will no longer have to worry about having their driveways blocked by parked cars. As it stands, the "No Parking" signs posted there are unenforceable because police say the alley is private property. But as a fire lane, police would have to keep the alley clear so that fire trucks could pass.

Whether or not that also means the city must clean, pave and maintain the alley remains to be seen. At last month's committee meeting, Supervisor Dick Hongisto asked a city attorney to have an answer before the issue comes to the full board.

"I don't know if that will change my vote on this, but I think we should know," said Hongisto who, along with Supervisor Bill Maher, approved the resolution.

Right now, cleaning is not an issue since the Department of Public Works (DPW) sent a crew from the Sheriff's Work Alternative Program (SWAP) to spruce up Comerford at the beginning of May.

"It took 10 men two days to take all the rubbish out," said Hugo Ressio of 379 27th St. For the past 10 years, Ressio has fought to get the city to take responsibility for the alley, which he claims has been barely passable because of ruts, garbage and overgrown weeds. "But it looks great now."

Denny Curran of 363 27th St. echoed Ressio's enthusiasm. "They did a great job," he said. "We've been fighting this issue for years. But this time they did an excellent job."

James Wunderman, special assistant to the mayor, said he had asked the DPW's street-cleaning division to take on Comerford's upkeep in response to requests he received from Ressio. As he understands it, a SWAP team will continue to clean up once a month.

But DPW still resists assuming responsibility for Comerford as a city street because that would mean taking on the costly burden of maintaining the road's pavement.

"DPW doesn't want to be uncooperative, but it just doesn't have the funds," Wunderman said. "The neighbors

haven't gotten the solution they want, but it's a step in the right direction."

Ressio agreed it's a step forward, but vowed to keep up the fight. "We're happy with this for now, because we know we're hucking the big guys," he said. "But I still say that Comerford is a public street." □

menace, Sonda points out, is that drivers going west on 26th Street must stop on a slope when they reach Sanchez. Because their view of the cross traffic is blocked by buildings and parked cars, the drivers must nose out into the intersection before they can see oncoming vehicles.

Two years ago, neighbors led by another nearby resident, Charlene Montoya, submitted a petition to the city's Department of Public Works (DPW). Signed by 110 neighbors, the petition requested stop signs at all four corners. It was turned down. The following June, after three auto accidents in one month, Montoya re-submitted her request with a new petition to Supervisor Bill Maher. It again was turned down.

So, after seeing one of her tenants injured by a car as she tried to cross the street this spring, Sonda decided it was time for guerrilla tactics. "Let 'em try to arrest me," she said defiantly. "The people here support me. We know whether or not this intersection needs to

New Look and New Boxes at Post Office

All three windows were open with no one waiting in line at the new Noe Valley Post Office on 24th Street May 22 when postal officials and neighbors gathered for an open house and ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Some patrons hovered in the background, either too shy to upstage Postmaster Mary Brown—who hosted the ceremony from a podium near the windows—or just interested in hearing the dedication of the swanky new 2,700-square-foot building, which opened its doors April 20.

The tastefully designed post office, with its large lavender and ivory front lobby, is a giant step up from the tiny storefront the branch occupied for years across the street from its current location, said Friends of Noe Valley member Miriam Blaustein. The only addition she would make is "some plants, a sofa and an easy chair." That would enable people who rent one of the office's 752 new mailboxes to sit down comfortably and read their correspondence on the spot.

Charles Morganstern, vice president of the Noe Valley Merchants Association, heralded the branch's new digs as a sign of an economic upswing in the neighborhood. "This is marking a transition to a new flourishing here," he said.



Station Manager Dan Dong seems happy in the post office's new space on the sunny south side of 24th Street. He points out the rows of new boxes at the branch.
PHOTO BY SALLY SMITH

Also on hand to answer questions were Station Manager Dan Dong and employees Rich Norvelle, Mike Broussard, and Eugene McGrath. Norvelle said the branch was now accepting applications from Noe Valley residents interested in renting a mailbox. The annual cost ranges from \$22 to \$53, depending on the box's size.

Dong noted that the staff at the Noe Valley branch had been beefed up to handle the added stream of mail anticipated from the postal boxes.

The U.S. Postal Service signed a 10-year lease with the building's owner, with an option to renew. □

Sonda Draws the Line on Troublesome Traffic

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be controlled."

Sonda claims that on her first early-morning foray onto Sanchez Street, a garbage collector blocked traffic for her as she painted the 10-inch stripes. Five days later, as she was touching up a smeared line, she was given some encouragement by passerby Diana Amato of 27th Street. "I admire her," she said. "This is a bad intersection and it needs a stop sign. Down at Sanchez and Jersey it took someone's death to get them to put up a stop."

Sonda, who's lived and worked as a ceramic tile artist in Noe Valley for 30 years, plans to embellish her pedestrian crossings with painted warnings such as "Caution," "Slow," and "Children." She said the lines had already slowed down some drivers, who take more notice of the intersection when they see the large white stripes and often call out, "Hey, are they going to put a stop sign here?"

Another passerby, who preferred not to give her name, said she agreed the intersection was dangerous, but wondered whether Sonda's temporary solu-

tion might also be unsafe. "The white lines look so much like the real thing, there's a lot of lurching going on because drivers are confused," she said.

When Montoya's petition was denied last year, DPW Engineer Al Herce said there had not been enough accidents recorded at the corner to warrant a four-way stop. DPW Traffic Engineer Shui Ying Wong said his department usually set a minimum of two accidents per year as a criterion for installing a four-way stop.

But at a May 21 meeting of the board of supervisors' Public Works Committee, a DPW representative said the minimum was four injury accidents over a four-year period.

If comments made by Supervisors Bill Maher and Dick Hongisto at the meeting are any indication, Sonda will have to fight more than DPW to get stop signs erected on Sanchez. That day, the supervisors refused to rubber-stamp a list of 17 intersections that had won DPW approval for new stop signs.

"We normally approve these lists as a matter of course," said Hongisto. "But stop signs are proliferating all over the city." The down-side to stop signs, he added, is that they "constipate" traffic.

Maher sent the list back to DPW saying the committee would approve those cases where there had been four injury accidents over four years and that the others would be reviewed individually.

Meanwhile, Sonda and other residents ask the neighborhood to report all accidents—no matter how small—at 26th and Sanchez. She also asks drivers to please slow down. She jokes, "I'm laying my life on the line" as a crosswalk vigilante, but hopes no more pedestrians or drivers will have to do likewise. □

Is Our Face Red

Voice writer Monica Levin caught an error in the caption under the front-page photo accompanying her April 1987 story, "The Light and Dark Sides of Tanning in a Salon." She pointed out that the Sun Days tanning bed in the picture browns only one side of the body at a time—not both, as the caption suggested.

And in our May 1987 story, "A Century of Meat from Frederick Drewes' Shop," we put 10 extra years on Phil Tomasello's life. He's 66, not 76. Sorry, Phil. □

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Lots of Finds in Small Stores

Continued from Page 1

verbal assaults that used to pass for interaction back East.

The partners have known each other for 13 years, work well together, and supply different strengths to their first joint venture. Forchione's food background made him the logical choice for chef, and you can tell he loves food by looking at him. He gained 20 pounds in three months after moving to San Francisco in February but is now concentrating on feeding his customers instead. Trial and error revealed that this neighborhood doesn't share midtown Manhattan's gusto for haked ziti with tomato sauce

But when Forchione countered with a huge fruit salad, it also ended up going home with him and DiSerio. However, the eggplant roll-ups (with cheese, prosciutto and herbs wrapped in pasta dough) didn't last an afternoon.

DiSerio, a former schoolteacher and computer analyst, handles the money and a large part of the merchandising. He talks proudly of the deli's hearty sandwiches, homemade salads, and special food-packing talents. A recent request for a care package to a starving artist in France resulted in a salami, two boxes of cookies, jars of artichokes, mushrooms, and candy getting packed into a container smaller than a shoebox for shipping.

Even if you desire a cruise to Italy, Andiamo can steer you on your way. DiSerio and Forchione work with Custom Cruises in New York and will plan your trip in addition to your next meal. These guys have all the bases covered!

Southside Paper
1303 Castro St. at 24th
282-5100

Hours: Mon.-Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5

Southside Paper owner Joan Cohen must have taken lessons in shelf-stocking from son-in-law Denny Giovannoli, owner of Tuggey's Hardware. Greeting cards fill the walls of her narrow store while revolving displays hold the overflow. Alcoves are bursting with jigsaw puzzles, picture frames, multicolored candles, and selected home office supplies. A shelf contains gift ideas for \$25 and under: clocks, mugs, photo albums, candlesticks. Decorative cat's-eyes contact lens cases and Ray-Ban sunglasses share space on the case in front of the store. (Sorry, the *Miami Vice* shades went the first day.)

It's all a great improvement over what was here when Cohen took over last September from an absentee owner whose merchandise had dropped to an alarming low. When Joan restocked, she didn't drop any sources (other than deleting



Dan Forchione (right) is trying not to eat up the profits that he and co-owner Tom DiSerio reap from their new deli on Diamond Street. PHOTO BY MARIELLA POLI

magazines) and concentrated on adding more selections. She expanded the Gary Larson *Far Side* line and now has more of his cards plus hooks and notepads. The store also carries a large supply of alternative packaging and wrap: wine bags, mylar bags, decorative boxes, single-sheet paper, metallic ties, and ribbon that makes it effortless to wrap any item, even if you're all thumbs. Cohen says she's similarly afflicted and put a lot of thought into this section. She confides that her kids used to look at a stack of gifts and yell, "That one's from Mom," because it was lopsided or sported a drooping bow. The magic wrap now available makes even her packages works of art.

The former schoolteacher makes it a point to welcome children into her shop and has added a variety of low-priced items that will appeal to them. She gives them special attention when they need a gift, and they return the favor by bringing her jelly and other presents in appreciation.

Cohen moved to the Bay Area from New York 24 years ago and notes with a laugh that she's met more Easterners in this neighborhood than anywhere else. The store location is ideal for her because she wanted a small-town feeling in a big city. Living in San Rafael became a problem, but a recent move to San Francisco got her off the road to devote more time to her business.

As for the cards—and this is still primarily a greeting card store—the selection defies description. Aside from birthday, anniversary and get well cards, there are getting-married-again or congratulations-on-a-divorce cards, nostalgia celebrity postcards, sympathy cards slashed with a brush stroke of color, elegant imported note cards, handmade flower cards, sliding PopShots, and a series from Maine Line called "Contemporary Concerns" that is geared toward women. ("We can laugh at ourselves more," Cohen explains.) One from the collection informs us that, "Before you go on a diet, consider this scientific fact: 97 percent of all men prefer overweight women... to bitchy nervous wrecks who eat nothing but celery."

Cohen also sells many blank cards. When someone requested an unusual anniversary card recently, she recommended a photo card of two seals lying on their backs. The customer's handwritten addition, "Happy anniversary to the new parents for whom lolling in the sun has become a thing of the past," made it tailor-made for the occasion.

Cohen promises windows and merchandise reflecting all holidays. "This isn't the Financial District," she declares. "It's a neighborhood and should be treated like one."

Out of Hand
1303 Castro St. at 24th
826-3885

Hours: Tues.-Sat. 10:30-6,
Sun. 12-5,
closed Mon.

Situated next door to Southside Paper, this shop, filled with American contemporary crafts in glass, ceramic, metal, fiber, and wood, is the brainchild of Karla Clement (it's pronounced like "in-lement," not the street in the Richmond). A Chicago native who "has lived everywhere," the painter is happiest as a Noe Valley resident. She and husband Jon Herbst moved to the neighborhood as soon as they saw it last year.

After "burning out" in careers as a filmmaker, photographer, production manager, and radio announcer, Clement decided to start her own retail crafts business when she couldn't find a similar store to shop in.

She says fellow entrepreneur Lee Aubry of the Mitre Box, an old family friend, talked her out of opening the store in the south of Market area because of the lack of foot traffic, while Clement herself emphatically nixed Union Street. ("I do not want a gallery!")

So when Skeffington's vacated its spot on Castro Street this spring, Clement snapped it up. Out of Hand opened on April 1 after the walls were painted white and warm lighting was installed.

The shop offers a wide choice of crafts in all price ranges, from \$8 earrings to a \$4,000 contemporary quilt. "The support in the neighborhood is phenomenal," Clement raves. "If you have something unusual, people will respond to it. Right now, the majority of people coming in are from the neighborhood, but word of mouth has also brought people from Marin, Pacifica and Palo Alto. We've had a great first month."

Artists' names are prominently displayed next to their wares. Noe Valley art works are plentiful and Clement tries to offer them here exclusively: Peter Davey's colored boxes, Rhoda Asnien's collage pins, Jeremy Popelka's glass.

Other items include papier-mâché fish, etched wineglasses, wooden spoons and salad tongs fashioned from wild cherry, handsewn blank books, trivets, large and small patchwork Amish quilts. (The small ones are made by children—their ages are noted on the tags—from the scraps given them by the adults.) You'll find microwave/dishwasher-safe clay cups and saucers by Kelly Swope, colored porcelain, stenciled wallets and purses made of cowhide, Art Deco clocks, and a wide assortment of jewelry. (A whimsical line of Ear Heads, Pin Heads and Tie Heads by Fred Babb are made of ceramic; no two faces are identical.)

What Clement doesn't carry is framed art; she leaves that to the Mitre Box and concentrates on three-dimensional crafts. Everything in the shop is handmade, and many are one-of-a-kind pieces.

Clement gets much of her merchandise through buyers markets organized by the



Joan Cohen has stocked Southside Paper on Castro Street with a gallery of wisecrack greeting cards as well as gift-wrapping supplies. PHOTO BY MARIELLA POLI

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'Small Is Beautiful' Business for Noe Valley Shop Owners

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American Craft Council. "And a surprising number of people coming in off the street have great stuff," she adds.

According to Aubry at the Mitre Box, Clement is very responsive to the neighborhood. According to Aubry, "She likes to be part of the business and residential community." And Clement fervently supports her colleagues: "If you don't want a 7-Eleven in this neighborhood, go to the Castro Pharmacy to fill your prescription, not the discount place in Diamond Heights."

The Mitre Box
4082 24th St. at Castro
824-2272
Hours: Mon.-Wed. & Fri.-Sat. 10-6,
Thur. 12-9, Sun. 12-5.

Next month the Mitre Box will celebrate its 13th birthday on 24th Street near Castro. To keep in touch with changing trends, owner Lee Aubry recently remodeled her custom and do-it-yourself framing shop into an art gallery. The walls command attention now, and they are filled with framed art. "We do everything we did before," Aubry hastens to add, "but in a nicer environment."

And people are responding to the art



An oldtimer by boutique standards, the Mitre Box has been framing on 24th Street for 13 years. Under the direction of owner Lee Aubry (left), the store is becoming more of an art gallery.

PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

by buying it and bringing other customers on subsequent trips. It's a triumph for Aubry, a designer by profession, who for years longed to clean up the messy worktables and emphasize the art.

"The bulk of what we do now is custom framing anyway," she says, "because the do-it-yourself customers of 10 years ago are the custom customers of today. They've done their own framing

and have less time these days but more disposable income."

Before the March 15 remodeling, do-it-yourself customers shared worktables and tools with the custom framing staff. "On top of that," Aubry recalls, "I was trying to show art, but the environment was wrong and space was at a premium. It was a zoo."

She was able to move her custom work into the back room at the nearby shop Out of Hand. Although there are fewer tables, the Mitre Box can still handle four to five do-it-yourself customers at a time (by appointment, please).

The store gallery currently shows mostly Southwestern art. Some of the best-known artists Aubry carries are Georgia O'Keeffe, Diego Rivera, R.C. Gorman, Carol Grigg, and Pena. You'll find serigraphs, lithographs, prints, cast-paper pieces, collages, monotypes, and posters to choose from. The majority are unsigned prints and posters that have been elaborately framed and matted by the Mitre Box. "Not all framers are willing and able to use the materials and techniques we do [up to five matts, many of fabric or textured paper]," Aubry explains proudly. "That's the middle range, which retails from \$130-\$180. We start at \$49 and go up to signed original serigraphs for \$495."

"Most of the things we sell are not one of a kind," she continues, "except for the pieces people come back for—and those were sold just five minutes earlier! It never fails, and is a phenomenon of retail I just don't understand."

She ventured into retail after being "merged and acquisitioned" out of her job as a store designer with GranTree Furniture Rental in 1973. Then, "after spending many afternoons that year at a do-it-yourself framing shop in the Richmond, I saw my future." She picked three areas of San Francisco for a location, but chose a "ramshackle building in charming Noe Valley" on one of 24th Street's busiest blocks. The Mitre Box opened in July of 1974.

Aubry attributes the successes and failures on the street since her beginnings here to the personality of the merchants: "Absentee ownership can be devastating; I know that better than anybody." In 1977 she opened a second store on Shattuck Avenue in Berkeley, but both stores suffered because she was constantly "shlepping stuff from one to the other to balance inventory. Little quality time was spent anywhere." After seven years she closed the Berkeley location (although it wasn't financially necessary to do so) and put all her energies back into 24th Street, the area where she lived and always felt more comfortable. "Business shot right up with me being here."

She has seven employees, most of whom have been with her for years. Man-



Karla Clement takes care to showcase the work of neighborhood artisans among the handicrafts available at Out of Hand on Castro Street. PHOTO BY MARIELLA POLI

ager Marty Hector has racked up 10 years of service. Aubry is appreciative but feels understaffed. (At the Mitre Box, do-it-yourself framing isn't really; the staff does everything for you but clean the glass.)

The shop recently sponsored a joint benefit with Out of Hand called Coming Home to Art, in which a portion of the stores' sales was donated to the Coming Home Hospice in Eureka Valley.

Spinelli Coffee Company
3966 24th St.
550-7416

Hours: Mon.-Sat. 8-7:30, Sun. 8-7

Arnold Spinelli and Christopher Calkins, the dynamic duo behind Spinelli Coffee, started a coffee business in 1983 out of an office in the Marina, but soon moved to 1257 Folsom St. when they began roasting their own beans. They sell retail out of the roasting, processing and distribution center, but concentrate on supplying coffee to over 100 Bay Area restaurants, including Rosalie's, Bentley's

Oyster Bar, and Four Star.

The two men, both in their early 30s, consider 24th Street their first real venture into retail and say they looked around for locations for two years. After the Ver Brugges, who owned a meat market on 24th near Real Food Co., renovated their Victorian across the street, the men made their move. "It felt right," says Spinelli. "and the Ver Brugges couldn't say enough good things about the neighborhood. I used to live here, so I didn't need much persuading. There's so much activity here, so many families and people of every age and economic situation. We wanted to present what we think is a really good product and we wanted to do it where we can get to be part of the neighborhood. This is one of the few areas left where you can really do that."

Calkins learned his coffee knowledge while working as manager for the company that owned Peet's Coffee in Seattle

Continued on Page 6



I kept gaining and losing the same 20 pounds. Then I said, this time it's going to be different.

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The Original Corner Grocery Store at Sanchez and Duncan streets combines old-time service with an up-to-date selection of gourmet goods. From left: Rick Bolen, Gordon Edelheit, Charlie Wolf, Justine Smith and Catherine Stevenson. PHOTO BY CHARLES KUNNARD



Marsha Cunningham (left) and Louis Pardo mete out the perky product at Spinnelli Coffee Company, located in a Victorian on 24th Street. PHOTO BY CHARLES KUNNARD

A Peek at the Nouveau Boutique

Continued from Page 5

A move to San Francisco landed him in the coffee equipment business where Spinelli worked. They sunk themselves wholeheartedly into coffee, then left to form their own business. They always felt strongly that there was a niche for them.

And it looks like there is room on the street for another coffee store. "Since we opened our doors here last September, the response of the neighborhood has been extremely positive," Spinelli says. It's no wonder; the store exudes aromas that can knock your socks off. The shop is also stocked with every coffee and tea accessory imaginable, in addition to Perugina and Lindt chocolates, brownies, muffins, loose and packaged tea, and select coffee beans and blends.

When asked about the bad publicity coffee has gotten lately, Spinelli remains

unperturbed. "There are two areas of coffee," he explains, "the traditional institutional roasts you find on your grocers' shelves and the gourmet bean market, which is a higher grade. In that market, coffee consumption is up. Decaf consumption is considerably up. It's now 25 percent of the market; it was probably less than 10 percent 10 years ago. Quite honestly, I've yet to hear a report that has definitively said there's something harmful in coffee, so I have no problems selling this product."

The Original Corner Grocery Store
1451 Sanchez St. at Duncan
648-2719

Hours: Sun.-Thur. 10-9,
Fri. & Sat. 10-10

If you're a wine lover, prepare to make a beeline over here. The Original Corner

Grocery Store offers a selection unlike any mom and pop around, and its service will make you forget Liquor Barn forever. Does a 1985 Sokol Blosser Oregon Pinot Noir mean anything to you? There was a case here recently, but it's going fast.

This storefront has been a corner grocery since the 1880s, according to store clerk Henry Ramirez, who has lived across the street for all of his 29 years and knows the history from his family. Gordon Edelheit, an entrepreneur with about 27 businesses to his credit by the age of 32, bought it last year from Bill and Bernie Lauch, a married couple who ran it for 30 years. After he linked up with partner Charlie Wolf, Edelheit opened the shop in December.

Fortunately for Edelheit, he asked the opinion of a passerby regarding the paint color he had chosen for the store. Rick Bolen, a food and wine photographer and gourmet cook who lived a block away, gave an unprintable answer. But he continued to supply advice and eventually Edelheit offered him part of the business. That's where the wine connection comes in. Bolen describes himself as a wine fanatic and lovingly shows off his selections from Australia, France, Portugal, Italy, California, and Oregon.

Why did he tackle this business on top of a lucrative photography career? "I always take on extra challenges," Bolen laughs. "It's more fun than stamp collecting! And I always fantasized about selling wine retail and turning people on to

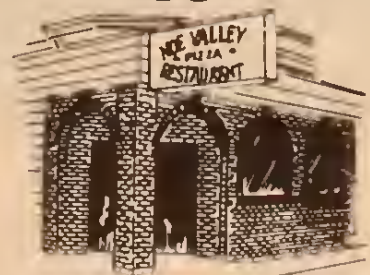
wine. Do you know you can get good wine for \$3-\$4 a bottle? And we have them here."

If you don't drink, there's still something here for you. It's not your typical corner grocery store. Yes, you'll find newspapers, Pampers and laundry detergent, but there's also fresh bread from Bakers of Paris, muffins from the Muffin Lady, select fresh produce, J.B. Loucks coffee, Peninsula Creamery bottled milk, imported cheeses, Ben & Jerry's ice cream, and Haagen-Dazs bars. Bolen makes and packages a fantastic salsa from a recipe he picked up in his travels to Mexico; he also talks of expanding into salads and hot entrees. Another unusual item is Odwalla Juice for Humans, fresh-squeezed and pressed fruit juices.

About a month after the store opened, Bolen got a call from someone doing a market survey for Cala, Bell, Safeway and other supermarkets in San Francisco. After answering the questions but not volunteering that he owned a store, Bolen inquired as to the number one complaint people have about grocery stores. It's lack of service. That was good news to Bolen because he and Edelheit and Wolf made their corner store service-oriented from the beginning. Bolen spends a lot of time training the staff so they can recommend wines and the right cheeses to complement them. And soon the Original Corner Grocery Store will be offering delivery service. Make note of that phone number! □



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San Francisco

Dreaming up Ways to Channel the Psyche

By Steve Steinberg

*Life could be a dream,
Sh-boom, sh-boom
Life could be a dream,
Sh-boom, sh-boom*
—from a popular tune of the 1950s

Sometimes it seems that life could indeed be a dream. Things pass in a fog. Are we dreaming or waking? Can we distinguish dream from reality? Our confusion may arise from the very fact that dreams play a greater role in our lives than we care to admit. Dreams, after all, are not given much credence in our high-tech society. How often are we told, "It's only a dream." But is it?

A new form of psychic inquiry has developed in recent years, dedicated to the notion that dreams do play a major part in people's lives. Dream workers, as students of the dream phenomenon are

"It takes a rare executive to want to try that approach."

Both men place a large measure of trust in the ability of dreams to solve problems and help with relationships and questions of health. "The central point," notes Smith, "is you have within yourself a source of great wisdom that you can tap into any time if you decide to develop that dreaming side of you."

According to dream workers, dreams can be consciously triggered, or incubated. All you do is request a conversation with your dreaming mind.

"You say," says Olsen, "'I want to talk to you, I want to have a dream.'" With the use of the correct techniques, he adds, the dream mind will respond two or three days later with the appropriate dream, perhaps answering a question about your life and the direction you should take.

Olsen and Smith argue that we can be



At a celebration of the Dream House's first anniversary last month, Susan St. Thomas lectures on the nexus between dreaming and astrology. The walls around her display the paintings of several dream artists. PHOTO BY JIM BINDER

a time, ascertaining the person's feeling at each stage. Olsen hopes the dreamer can reach a conclusion to the dream sequence and, by extension, resolve whatever problem the dream symbolized in his or her life. "You'll probably never have that dream again," Olsen likes to say after such a session.

Dreams speak in a symbolic language all their own. They combine various elements ("a pile of small change") to form a message to the conscious mind. But where this message comes from is open to speculation. Ultimate interpretation rests with the dreamer and his or her personal belief system.

Olsen and Smith feel that dreams transcend the "normal limits of time and space." They also believe that dreams have a prophetic character, which may be totally inexplicable. "We have to open ourselves to the possibility of mystery when we deal with dreams," says Olsen, who notes that the idea for the Dream House came out of a dream.

And Smith has largely turned over the direction of his life to dreams. He says he literally dreamed his way to San Francisco.

"I changed everything when my dreams started making sense," Smith says. "I changed my marriage, I left my community. I changed my work, I changed my set of friends, everything. . . . Dreams are extremely relevant to the crucial issues of your life. . . and they never lie."

Of course, Smith is careful to say that we don't have to surrender rationality to appreciate what dreams are trying to tell us. Ideally, he says, we should weave together the rational and dream sides of our personalities.

The Dream House likes to stress dream inspiration for the arts: new ideas in dance, music and painting can all issue forth from a dream, as can scientific and technological insights. According to Olsen, Albert Einstein attributed much of his life's work to a dream he had at the age of 19 in which he went sliding down a hill on a sled and sailed into space,

reaching the speed of light. "Dreams are the window to the whole creative side of our personalities," says Smith.

That creative side is showcased on the walls of the Dream House, where the dramatic artwork of several local dream artists is on display. Much like the surrealistic art of the 1920s, the paintings attempt to translate directly the message of the subconscious onto canvas.

Olsen and Smith belong to a network of 30 to 40 dream workers scattered around the Bay Area, and they feel that some of the most innovative dream work in the country is going on here in San Francisco. If you listen to their clients, you'd have to agree. Paula Bell, who's attended workshops at the Dream House, found that her dream work gave her a "clarity" on various problems that had been "kicking around in her mind."

Fannie Lee Lowe, another Dream House client, said that thanks to her dream training, she had been able to "establish a marriage" between her conscious and subconscious mind. She also praised Olsen's work as being particularly significant, and not just for her. "His whole thing is to begin to change the planet by opening up people to the unconscious. . . . He's a revolutionary."

Olsen would indeed like to change the prevailing mind set of society, guiding it to a more intuitive stage of development. He feels it may be heading in that direction anyway and just needs a few dreamers to nudge it along.

Olsen imagines a future where people are so much more in tune with their dreaming selves that dream power will be taken for granted, much like electricity is today. Smith has the same vision: "I think we'll all look back in the 21st century and say, 'How could those people have squandered all those dreams, all that insight?'"

The Dream House offers a free introductory dream clinic on Wednesday nights, as well as other classes, workshops and therapy sessions for a fee. For further information, call 239-6906. □



Kent Smith (left) and Fred Olsen have established a Dream House in Glen Park where folks can share dreams and learn how to use them in their waking lives. PHOTO BY JIM BINDER

called, believe that bringing out the dream side of our personalities is vital to fully developing our waking selves.

Locally, dream studies are pursued at the Dream House, 395 Sussex St., in nearby Glen Park. Situated on a woodsy corner lot next to a park, the Dream House offers a wide variety of classes, lectures, clinics, therapy sessions and discussion groups. At the Friday night "Dream Talks," for instance, guest speakers lecture on topics ranging from Mayan dream interpretation to nightmare help to telepathic dreaming.

The Dream House is the creation of Fred Olsen, a dream counselor and former NASA engineer who also has a master's degree in divinity and studied at the C.G. Jung Institute in Zurich, Switzerland. Olsen, 44, calls his house "a home for the dream," and sees his mission as providing "access" to dreams as a resource for positive change.

His colleague in the Dream House is Kent Smith, 45, who holds a Ph.D. in diplomatic history from U.C. Berkeley and who doubles as a management business consultant.

In 1985 Smith founded the Dream Training Institute, which attempted to teach people how to understand their dreams on their own without the intervention of counselors or therapists, he says. Smith later joined Olsen's Bay Area Professional Dream Workers Support Group, an organization for professional dream workers. The two decided to merge their respective groups last year, and the Dream House was the result.

For Smith and Olsen, dreaming is a way of life. "I live my life basically out of my dreams," says Smith. He has even begun applying dream analysis techniques to his consulting work, asking executives to draw on their dreams in making business decisions. He laughingly admits that it can be tough going:

taught greater recall of our dreams as well as the ability to be aware that we are dreaming during the very act of dreaming. Such awareness, known as lucid dreaming, enables us to achieve greater control over our dreams.

The dream workers also claim that we can be trained to communicate telepathically with others through our dreams, sometimes over thousands of miles.

Olsen specializes in a form of dream therapy called the waking dream. He considers this approach particularly helpful to people who experience recurrent dreams, the kind that suggest unresolved situations in the dreamer's life.

During a waking dream session, Olsen asks his client to re-enter the dream while awake and, using the imagination, visualize what is happening. He then guides him or her through the dream one step at



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Drive for District Elections

By Anne Semans

Have you been strategically dodging the latest round of petition-wavers in front of Bell Market? Those people aren't being paid to carry clipboards; they're volunteering in an attempt to re-establish district election of the city's board of supervisors.

If they're successful in obtaining 40,000 signatures by July 18, the district elections initiative will go on the November ballot. Then voters will decide whether to divide the city into 11 districts (as was done from 1976 to 1980), with each district responsible for electing a supervisor from its own neighborhood. The districts will number about 61,000 residents each, with parts of Noe Valley, the Castro and the Haight comprising one district (District 5).

If you're in favor of strengthening neighborhood representation at City Hall, the San Franciscans for District Elections need more than your signature—they need your help. In order to meet their goal of 3,000 to 4,000 signatures per week, they need more volunteers to collect names at key traffic spots throughout the city.

You can also help by joining the organization's steering or outreach committees, which meet every other week. The steering committee will meet next on June 2 and June 16 at the campaign's new office at Glide Memorial Church, 330 Ellis St. The outreach committee is responsible for publicity, speakers bureaus, and phone banks, as well as other efforts necessary to get the measure on the ballot.

To publicize the initiative, a campaign



Procession With a Mission on Mother's Day

Mother's Day took on militant meaning this year when 300 mothers and others marched through the Mission to protest U.S. intervention in Central America. Leading the march were Nicaraguan Guadalupe Martinez, whose son was killed by Contras, and Catherine Smith, a Navajo from Big Mountain, Ariz. Part of the Mothers' Tour for Peace, the May 10 demonstration was intended to bring the uninformed and misinformed public in contact with witnesses to the atrocities. PHOTO BY JEFFREY BLANKFORT

kick-off party will be held June 11 at the law offices of Terence Hallinan, 819 Eddy St., from 6 to 8 p.m. The party will be attended by current Supervisors Nancy Walker, Richard Hongisto, and Harry Britt, all of whom endorse the initiative. Volunteers are welcome.

For confirmation of meeting dates, times and locations, or other information on district elections, call Ed Emerson at 863-5498. □

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Gay Pride

One of the most ear- and eye-catching events of San Francisco's colorful summer is the annual Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade and Celebration. This year thousands of celebrants will march down Market Street starting at 11 a.m. on June 28, under the thematic banner of "Proud/Strong/United." The parade will be led as usual by motorcycles (Dykes on Bikes) and will include a host of floats and bands. It will end up at the Civic Center, where there will be speakers and dancing from noon to 6 p.m. Persons with AIDS or ambulatory difficulties will be specially accommodated.

Prospective volunteers can sign up by coming by the office at 3412 22nd St. or calling 647-3733. Also, the free official parade program magazine includes site and route information and an interview with the late Christopher Isherwood by Noe Valley's own Armistead Maupin.

Meanwhile, planning meetings are under way for a conference this fall to address a lesbian political agenda and organize a network for local lesbian groups. The meetings for the Lesbian Agenda for Action Conference, which will take place Sept. 19-20, are now being held on the first and third Wednesday evenings of each month at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St. For more information call Jean Harris at 285-4725.

Clean Friends

For your last chance at spring cleaning, get your trash over to Castro Street near Clipper for the Friends of Noe Valley-sponsored Dumpster Day June 13, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Members of Friends (one of the neighborhood's most active residential groups) will get a discount on disposal charges. Others can dump their garbage (for a small fee) and then get the scoop on joining the organization. Call Miriam Blaustein at 648-0992 for details.

SHORT TAKES



This is one of the compelling images from the exhibit "Tracking the Epidemic: Five Years of the AIDS Crisis" at the Eye Gallery beginning June 4. PHOTO BY MARIELLA POLI

OWL Honorees

Three Wonderful Older Women (WOW) were honored by the Older Women's League (OWL) at a ceremony last month at the Vorpahl Gallery in the Civic Center. OWL, profiled in the March 1987 *Voice*, lauded the trio for their contributions to the community and to dispelling stereotypes of older women.

WOW winner Holly Elliot, who has been deaf since her early 20s, is current president of the United Methodist Congress for the Deaf. Sally Lilienthal, another honoree, is president of Ploughshares, a major nonprofit advocate of disarmament, and is also co-chair of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and a board member of Amnesty Interna-

tional. The third OWL honoree, Faricita Wyatt, is a teacher, poet, lecturer and civil rights activist.

To find out more about OWL, which meets at 19th and Dolores streets, call 550-1660.

AIDS Visuals

An exhibit of graphics, printed materials and videos at the Eye Gallery this month brings home the tragedy of AIDS and the courage of those fighting it. "Tracking the Epidemic: Five Years of the AIDS Crisis" is produced by the Gay Men's Health Crisis of New York City and the Terrence Higgins Trust of London, and co-sponsored by FRAME-LINE, the organization responsible for the annual Lesbian and Gay Film Festi-

val. Among the photographers represented are Ron Beauregard, Gary Borgstedt, Anne Merideth, and *Voice* staff photographer Mariella Poli.

The exhibit runs June 4-28 at the gallery, 758 Valencia St. There will be an opening reception June 5 from 7 to 10 p.m. Other related events at the gallery include a talk by author Simon Watrey on "The Sexual and Political Implications of the British National AIDS Commission" (June 11), an evening of video (June 12), and a public forum on AIDS and the communications media (June 24).

More AIDS-related videos will be screened at Video Free America, 442 Shotwell St., June 25-27. Call the gallery Thursday through Sunday afternoons at 431-6911 for program details.

Little Landscapes

The students at Alvarado School have already left the prints of their green thumbs on their rooftop garden, which appeared in last month's *Voice*. And now they've made their mark at the San Francisco Landscape Garden Show held recently at Pier 3 at Fort Mason.

In the April 20 competition, Laura Burges' third-grade class won the Best Park Award with a model featuring a miniature apple tree, grasses and flowers around a pond and park bench. Alvarado's bilingual special education class, under the direction of Theron Von Ark and Evelyn Umana, created a "Red Rock Candy Mountain" with a cookie house and gumdrop trees that won the Best Edible Garden prize.

The Best City Garden Award went to Alvarado's after-school art students, assisted by Shirley Dimapilis and Nancy Thompson. Their project had a variety of herbs and miniature flowers surrounded by three-dimensional house models.

Garlands of praise go to Alvarado and the Friends of Recreation and Parks, which sponsored the event.

Continued on Page 10



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SHORT TAKES

Continued from Page 9

Fitting In

Under federal laws put into effect last month, immigrants must meet new standards of English literacy and citizenship in order to gain U.S. residency. To meet the growing need, the San Francisco Community College centers are offering free day and night summer sessions at a variety of locations, including the college headquarters at 106 Bartlett St. The workshops help prepare participants for the literacy and citizenship exams. For details, call 239-3070.

Working Youth

The San Francisco business community connects youths with work through the Summer Job Experience program. If you're an employer who can offer at least 24 hours of work (per week) for six or more weeks—at no less than the minimum wage—please call 974-LINK. And if you're looking for a job and are a resident between the ages of 16 and 21, call the Private Industry Council at 621-5911 and find out who needs you.

Casbah on Capp St.

You don't know what's shakin' if you've never been to a Cairo Cabaret, but there's one coming on June 28, much nearer than the Nile. It's at the Capp Street Center (362 Capp St.), and it's produced by Noe Valley's own Aswan Dancers, whom you may have seen at the First Ining or Zorha's on 24th Street.

In addition to belly-dancing, the troupe's stock-in-trade, the event will feature Middle-Eastern ethnic dancing, music by the Cairo Cats, and equally spiey food. Call 282-7910 for advance tickets.



Dancers will get down to raise money to fight nuclear proliferation at this year's Give Peace a Dance June 20.

Join the Circus

Make*A*Circus will have something new under the sun (or fog) at Dolores Park on June 23, starting at 12:30 p.m. It's the premiere of a new main event, "Abou's Journey," and a show for kids, "Rest in Peace."

"Abou's Journey" takes the young performer of the title deep into a magical desert where he encounters a flying camel, a living rock, and a collection of jugglers, acrobats, clowns and trapeze artists. "Rest in Peace" poses a threat to a beleaguered vampire whose castle is being renovated as a tourist attraction.

Between the two shows, kids and adults in the audience will get a free 45-minute crash course in circus skills, from acrobatics to face-painting to still-walking. For a copy of Make*A*Circus' complete schedule of summer performances in the parks, call 776-8477.

Dancing for Dollars

There's still time to register for the area's most musical marathon, the annual Give Peace a Dance. This is a chance to get paid for dancing from noon to midnight on June 20 at Fort Mason's Pier 3, and to turn over your earnings to the San Francisco Nuclear Weapons Freeze and the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES). Last year's 3,500 revelers raised \$130,000.

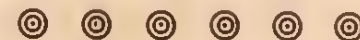
This year celebrity emcees Ed Asner, Scoop Nisker and Kris Welch will introduce the Pete Escovedo Orchestra, the Freaky Executives, the Uptones and



This year's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade on June 28 is expected to be bigger and boogier than ever

other bands, as well as aerobicists, rappers and dance instructors. Prizes will be awarded for the best individual costume, team costumes, team names, and best limbo, jitterbug, twist and salsa dancers.

Call 861-0593 if you want to register yourself or a team, and remember that if you submit your form by June 12, you get a free Give Peace a Dance tee shirt. More importantly, each \$100 you collect from sponsors will feed a Salvadoran family of four for a year.



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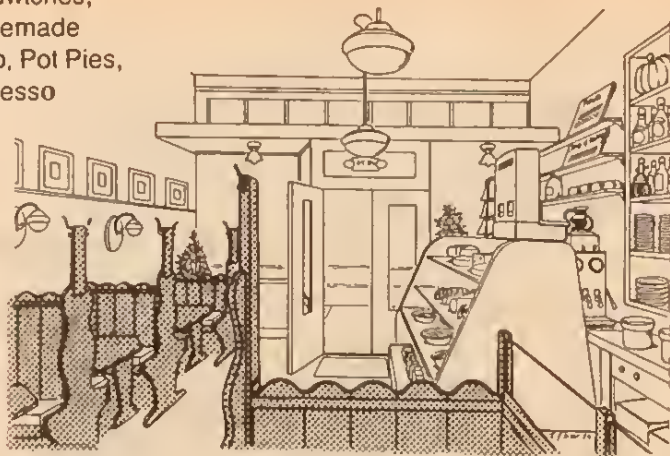
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Senior Housing Gets a Lift From Paint Co.

By Denise Minor

As Noe Valley struggles with high rents and vacant storefronts, our neighbors in Bernal Heights are launching a development that combines a Fortune 500 paint company outlet with 49 units of low-cost senior housing.

"This is the first of its kind in the state, maybe even the nation," said San Francisco Assemblyman Art Agnos, who served as liaison between the Bernal Heights Community Foundation and Standard Brands Paint Co. of Torrance, Calif.

"It ought to be studied and duplicated throughout the city to provide affordable housing not only for the elderly, but for families as well."

The story began in 1985 when a bowling alley at 3333 Mission St. (near 29th Street) was demolished, leaving an empty lot. According to Fred Allingham, executive director of the Bernal Heights Community Foundation, his group then made some inquiries with an eye toward erecting a low-income housing project on the site. But the foundation couldn't afford the lot's \$1-million-plus price tag, and soon learned that Standard Brands had bought the land.

Bernal Heights organizers were not discouraged, however. They phoned Standard Brands' chief executive officer, Stuart Buchalter, and asked if they could



Neighborhood and state dignitaries gathered to break ground on Mission Street for future low-income housing above a new paint store. In the foreground, from left: State Assemblyman Art Agnos; Steve Antonaris, president of the Bernal Heights Community Foundation board of directors; Sylvia Yee, past president of the Bernal Heights Community Foundation; and Marvin Wager, president and chief operations officer of Standard Brands Paint Co.
PHOTO BY TOM WACHS

buy the "air rights" above the home improvement store—which essentially meant, could they build on top of the store?

Buchalter refused, but foundation members persisted. They contacted Agnos to see if he would step in on their behalf.

"They called and asked if I could penetrate the corporate structure," said Agnos. "So I scheduled a private meeting with Mr. Buchalter and convinced him that I would be involved throughout the process. He was nervous because he had never worked with a nonprofit organization before, but felt better with someone more conventional involved."

Once Standard Brands began working with the Bernal Heights group, its

officers warmed to the idea. In fact, Buchalter ended up jumping in to do as much as possible to make the housing project a reality. Standard Brands donated the "air space" and will spend an extra \$250,000 on roof reinforcements to carry the additional weight of two extra stories.

The whole project will cost about \$4 million, with \$2.2 million going to the apartment complex and a community park behind it, said Allingham. To be called Coleridge Park Homes, the complex will have 49 units of mostly one-bedroom apartments, with a few two-bedrooms and studios.

Allingham and the other members of the Bernal Heights Community Foundation—a housing rights, seniors and

youth agency in existence since 1978—are eager to see their dream realized, especially since the need for affordable housing in San Francisco is so great.

When the development is ready for tenancy, about a year from now, "I expect we're going to be inundated with applications," Allingham said.

First preference will go to low-income seniors from Bernal Heights, with remaining units going to seniors living in surrounding areas. Rents will be "the minimum possible which still gives us enough to pay the mortgage," Allingham said.

Financing is through the California Housing Finance Agency, and an \$860,000 grant from the mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development has helped defray legal and architectural costs. Agnos thinks it is likely more funding will come from other sources.

On May 22, Standard Brands staged a ground-breaking ceremony to celebrate the start of construction on the paint store. Sometime this summer the Bernal Heights Community Foundation plans to hold another party to celebrate phase two of the building project: the upper-story apartments.

"There've been jokes around the office that we'll 'break air,'" laughed Allingham. One thing's for sure: the wedding of big business and low-income housing is a welcome break with tradition. □



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Parents Handle Teenage Trouble With Toughlove

By Laura McHale

A 14-year-old set his family's home on fire and later told his parents, "Next time I'll do it when you're in it." A 20-year-old who refused to work or go to school stole \$2,400 from her mom and denied that the money ever existed. A 15-year-old honor student suddenly dropped all of her lifelong friends, began cutting classes, physically attacked her mother and ran away to live with her drug dealer boyfriend.

These events seem incongruous with Noe Valley's brightly painted Victorians and well tended gardens, but for some families in our sunny little neighborhood, stories such as these are all too real.

What does a family do when faced with such a crisis? Some try to work it out themselves or seek professional counseling; others ship their kids off to relatives or boarding school; many throw their hands up in despair. An increasing number, however, are turning to Toughlove, a controversial philosophy and support structure founded in 1979 for parents of troubled adolescents.

A parent support group based on the Toughlove philosophy was established in San Francisco in 1982. It currently consists of about 30 families, many of whom meet at 7:30 p.m. each Monday at St. Luke's Hospital at Army and Valencia streets.

The founders of the program—Phyllis and David York of Doylestown, Pa.—are professional family therapists who in the late '70s found themselves in the same boat as many of their clients. Their own teenagers were "out of control" and had recurring problems with alcohol and drug abuse. The Yorks tried everything they could think of to help their children, but their lives did not improve. Finally, when one of their daughters was arrested for holding up a cocaine dealer, they decided they would not rescue her; she would have to face the consequences of her own actions. But they didn't want to abandon her either, so they sought help from some friends who'd recently faced similar problems. The Yorks' friends backed them in their decisions and took over some of the parenting of their daughter. "That's how we learned the importance of parent support," Phyllis later told a *Parents* magazine reporter. "From firsthand experience."

The Yorks began sharing their new ideas with their clients, and the response to their emerging philosophy was phenomenal. "In a child-oriented age, we were giving

parents permission to reassume their role as heads of household," says David. By 1983, 700 Toughlove parent support groups were flourishing. In 1985 there were 1,400. Now there are around 2,500 groups worldwide, according to Chuck Whelan, a San Jose group member.

"It's a grassroots-type operation, with no paid staff except at the home office [in Pennsylvania]," says Whelan. "It's a real help to those parents who will take the time to learn before they try to implement the system. There are no quick fixes with Toughlove."

Through the program, parents learn how to take a stand on issues of importance to their families and meet weekly to share problems and resources. Parents also plot strategies for handling the repercussions of taking a strong position with their children, something that's a new experience for most.

"We work on small steps of recovery," says Whelan. "We worry about current

When your children know you have a support group behind you, they back down and cooperate. Parents are no longer isolated targets.

—Mother of a truant 12-year-old

issues and not so much about what caused the problems to arise. We take one issue—as small as possible at first—and try to figure out a successful way to get the kid back under control."

To protect their families' privacy, parents at a recent San Francisco meeting requested anonymity, but gladly shared their frustrations and joys in practicing Toughlove. Participants gathered in the unlikely company of mannequins in hospital beds at St. Luke's Hospital's Nursing Education Building. Their children ranged from a 9-year-old runaway to a man in his late '30s who expected his parents to support him financially and bail him out whenever he got into trouble.

"When your children know you have a support group behind you, they back down and cooperate," said one mother of a truant 12-year-old. "Parents are no longer isolated targets."

"For me the pragmatic, real world information on how the legal and school

systems work is helpful," said a father whose daughter had just run away from juvenile hall. "And just brainstorming with other parents about how I can try new things is invaluable."

A mother who'd recently had success getting her son off drugs and alcohol and back into school said, "I like the way we are actively involved with each other and take responsibility for keeping our group going. I think it's for everybody and even recommend that people come before there are problems. All parents of teenagers have trouble communicating."

Phyllis and David York do make it clear, however, that Toughlove is not a method for raising all children. "It is a structure for raising teenagers in crisis who are generating crisis," explained David in a 1983 *Parents* magazine interview.

In extreme cases, use of the Toughlove philosophy has led to children living away from home, sometimes as wards of the state, in juvenile halls or in group homes. This has given Toughlove a reputation as an anti-children's rights organization that encourages parents to kick kids out of the house. Members of Toughlove say many parents are relieved to find that making a child leave home is recommended only as a last resort, when all other steps have failed.

"I told my friends that I didn't want to go to Toughlove," confessed a San Francisco mother who asked not to be identified. "The media made it sound extremist and contrary to the view of our liberal generation. We were the fussed-over Dr. Spock babies. It's a different view to know you're entitled to have a good life apart from what your kids are doing."

Vicki Strang is deputy director of the Children's Rights Group, an all-volunteer San Francisco organization that works to expand and improve services for young people. But she doesn't hesitate to recommend Toughlove to parents: "I attended some meetings, and I was impressed with the kind of support they were offering one another. There just aren't many support services available for parents who are having problems with adolescents. No matter what the problem, Toughlove can help parents set

limits and feel they're not alone."

In the past few years, Toughlove's applications have expanded. It now includes support groups for family and friends of cocaine users of all ages, and support groups for teenagers within the framework of the public school system. One such teenage support group is flourishing in Fremont, and some San Francisco parents are trying to get one started here.

I get a half-dozen phone calls a day from parents who have reached the end of their rope.

—Barbara Foy
Bay Area Toughlove

There are currently more Toughlove groups per capita in the Bay Area than anywhere else in the country. "It's very scary," says Barbara Foy, a Toughlove contact person for the Bay Area. "I get a half-dozen phone calls a day from parents who have reached the end of their rope. Society doesn't believe it's happening, but parents do need a place to go."

On the brighter side, Toughlove appears to have lived down some of its bad press and is finding a respected place in the establishment. The number of phone calls Foy receives from therapists, school counselors and other professionals who want to refer their clients to Toughlove is on the rise. Also, San Francisco's parent support group was recently asked to do a presentation on Toughlove for a group researching ways to improve and reorganize the city's Youth Guidance Center.

Toughlove isn't the way for all parents, but it is certainly an effective tool for many who have tried it. The camaraderie provided in the weekly meetings has also fostered many deep and lasting friendships. "I've met some of the nicest people in Toughlove," reflected Foy. "Perhaps that's part of the problem. Maybe we're just a little *too* nice."

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SPECIAL

Let BYLINES be BYLINES

Robin Knowlton

"Sandinistas, Quaddafi Fund U.S. Protest" declared the headline in the *Washington Times* on April 24, a day before the National Mobilization for Peace and Justice in Washington, D.C. What? Having come all the way from Noe Valley to march in the event, my husband, Stefan, and I were a little put out. The "\$3 million distributed to organizers from Nicaragua's Marxist government" had not paid for our plane tickets. Weren't we radical enough?

The true situation in Nicaragua—hunger, critical fuel and power shortages, and stepped-up civilian murders by the Contras—cannot be so humorously dismissed, however.

Our journey to the Washington march actually began in early 1986 when we traveled through Central America to see the situation for ourselves. We chose not to affiliate with any organization or tour group and came away deeply shocked by the militarization of Costa Rica, the poverty of Nicaragua, and the ominous military presence throughout Guatemala. This was at a time when President Reagan

was warning of the Sandinistas massing at our borders, the Contras were operating freely inside Costa Rica, and Guatemala's "New Democracy" was receiving generous military aid from the U.S.

Later that year, Reagan won \$100 million in congressional funds for the Contras. The passage of this aid triggered my September 1986 trip to Washington to work with the Veterans Fast for Life. Four Vietnam and World War II veterans fasted on the steps of the Capitol in order to call attention to the U.S.-sponsored killings of Nicaraguans. And I wrote press releases, organized press conferences and generally demanded, cajoled and begged the media for coverage.

I had seen flyers for the National Mobilization while in Washington. When I returned home, I knew that if I was going to participate in the march I wanted to do it under the nose of Congress. Now, more than ever, I was convinced that Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. had been right: We *were* on the "wrong side of the world's revolution."

Upon our arrival in D.C. April 23, we had breakfast with Jean Walsh, a staff member of the Witness for Peace program. She had just returned from leading a delegation to Guatemala and Nicaragua.

Her group was able to gain extraordinary access to many persecuted Guatemalans, both in the government's so-called "model villages" and in a remarkable sanctuary church operating inside the country. The church offers protection to Indians who have been hiding for years from the military after



Well over 100,000 people from all over the country converged on the Capitol under rainy skies April 25 to voice their objection to U.S. military operations. PHOTO BY ROBIN KNOWLTON

their villages have been destroyed and family members have been murdered or have "disappeared."

By happenstance, we later ran into Brian Willson, one of the Vietnam veterans who participated in the Veterans Fast for Life. He too had just returned from Nicaragua. Brian had walked 100 miles with 10 unarmed U.S. citizens along a heavily mined road between Jinotega and Wiwili. Two of Brian's Nicaraguan friends, who were farmers, were brutally decapitated by the Contras while he was away on that journey. "I'm tired of the peace movement telling me to have patience," he told us. "How can people in this country live honorably with these acts being perpetrated in our name?"

We kept vigil with a group on the steps of the Capitol that evening. Between us we held a banner that read, "Stop the Killing in Nicaragua." A woman in her late 60s joined us. She

had come all the way from Washington state to be in the march. "I can't sleep at night knowing so many peasants are suffering," she said sadly. A little later, two men in formal evening wear hurried by us to a nearby government building and yelled, "Commsies!"

Later that night we participated in a prayer meeting with people from a broad spectrum of faiths: Quaker, Catholic, Buddhist and "none of the above." Our prayers quickly turned into a discussion of how we as individuals must respond to the deteriorating situation in Nicaragua.

"It's the same faces you see at every demonstration," commented one man, echoing our own doubts that the march wouldn't really change anything. Two other men announced their plans to return to Nicaragua and stand as unarmed guards at a power station that had recently come under Contra attack.

Continued on Page 15

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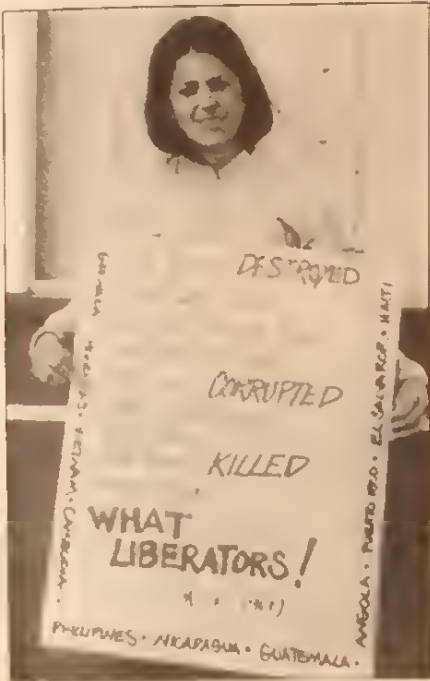
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BYLINES

Continued from Page 14

All of us felt the time to act growing short—but how?

The morning of the march began with the sound of passing cars splashing through puddles outside our window. Rain. The nearby bagel shop was crowded with protesters. By 9 a.m. we had arrived at the Ellipse, a baseball field near the White House where the march was to begin. The temperature was in the low 40s, the morning was gray and rainy, and not more than 100 people had shown up.



Robin Knowlton of Vicksburg Street carried a message of protest to the National Mobilization in Washington last April.
PHOTO BY STEFAN SEKULA

Back in San Francisco, I had packed summer dresses, stockings, and a sun hat. Stefan had taken the time to iron his shirt and polish his shoes. We had planned on looking presentable, professional. Instead, we wore layers of shirts, sweatshirts and jackets, and we stuffed newspapers against our chests to keep warm. Our signs reading, "San Francisco Says NO to Contra Aid" and quotes from King and Helen Caldicott were smearing in the rain. We found shelter under a kiosk that sold tickets for local sightseeing tours. We had pictured things differently.

Slowly, as the wind swelled, so did the crowd. Buses arrived and people began filling the field. Music—now salsa, now an Afro beat—blared from the main stage. People crowded around the kiosk for shelter before running out into the rain to set up their literature tables, or to hoist their group's banner for others to rally around. We talked to protesters from a broad cross-section of America: seniors from Pennsylvania, blacks from Birmingham, Latinos from El Salvador, punks, college students, priests, and union men and women from many different affiliates.

The whole state of Vermont seemed to stream by. They carried posters in red and black stating, "Vermont says NO!" Thirty buses from Ohio arrived. At 11:00 the Ellipse was filled. An a cappella group opened the morning's program with a gospel rendition of "Ain't Gonna Study War No More." Someone had gathered hundreds of shoes and arranged them into a large peace symbol—"Soles for Peace."

After finding the Witness for Peace

contingent, we walked out of the mud, past the Corcoran Gallery with its sleeping stone lions and onto Pennsylvania Avenue. Lining the route, supporters cheered and applauded as we passed. Tourists looking for the White House looked dumbfounded. I thought of the many and varied groups that had marched this route before us: suffragists, Klansmen, pacifists, farmers, veterans, civil rights workers, abortion advocates and opponents.

We passed a line of U-Haul trucks that carried humanitarian aid bound for Nicaragua. Their drivers waved to us. Forty more trucks waited on a side street—just blocks from the Capitol—in open defiance of the U.S. embargo.

Suddenly we had arrived. People spilled from the avenue onto the Capitol lawns, into trees, atop statues and fountains. At 2:20 p.m., only half the marchers had passed. We began hearing crowd estimates of 120,000; later, 200,000. The next day, the *Washington Post* reported a low 75,000.

"The April Mobilization had from the start the smell of hard-left politics," wrote Jeane Kirkpatrick in the *Los Angeles Times*, handily dismissing the nurses, nuns, students, retirees, unionists, farmers—the broad mix of people and personalities who had marched.

The war grinds on. There seems no fitting end for this story, no sweeping generalizations to make about marching or marchers. It was wonderful to be there—even in the rain and the mud—to say simply and unequivocally, "No more killing in our name." □



Protesters placed hundreds of pairs of shoes in the pattern of a giant peace sign. The demonstration also included celebrity speakers and agit-prop theatre.
PHOTO BY ROBIN KNOWLTON

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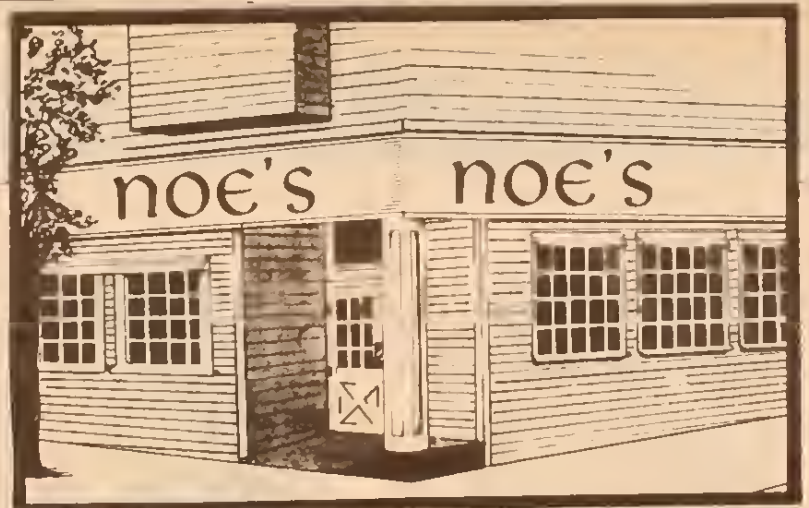
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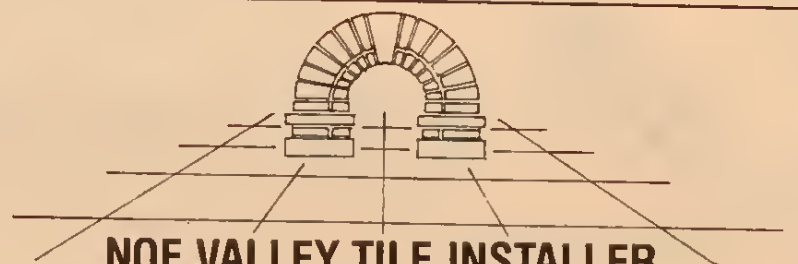
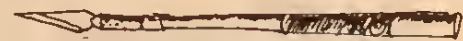
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SPCA: Animals' Best Friend

By Hugh Palmerston

For the past 119 years, the San Francisco Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) has been in the business of caring for animals and promoting "animal awareness." For 93 of those years, the nonprofit organization at 2500 16th St. has also acted as animal control officer for the City and County of San Francisco by picking up, treating and housing stray animals.

But back in March it looked like that long-standing and successful partnership might be threatened. City Chief Administrative Officer Rudy Nothenberg said the SPCA's increased charge to the city was too high. The SPCA was asking for \$1.54 million, an increase of \$140,000 over the 1986-87 budget.

SPCA President Richard Avanzino took the position that "we cannot and will not sacrifice our standards of humane care for the animals to meet the budgetary needs of City Hall." Nothenberg has relented, however, and is now recommending that Mayor Dianne Feinstein approve the agreement, which was recently submitted to her.

weekend appearances in front of Gihrtar Savings on 24th Street.

As animal control officer, the SPCA is responsible for picking up stray or abandoned animals, cleaning them up, and giving them emergency medical care, food and housing. Staff members currently earn an annual salary of about \$13,000 for this work. The new budget, if approved, will bring them a \$2,000 raise.

Next comes finding homes for the animals, an effort that is primarily funded by \$890,000 in annual membership contributions. San Francisco SPCA's adoption rate now stands at 95 percent, the highest in the country. With its aggressive program of low-cost neutering, medical care and mobile adoption units, it is rapidly approaching its goal of 100 percent. And with such a successful adoption rate, the SPCA has moved far away from the traditional picture of the merciless "dog catcher."

Other programs developed by the SPCA may be less familiar to San Franciscans. One of the newest is Animal Behavior Control, a free hands-on series of seminars designed to get new pet owners



Who could resist this cute canine? Aside from rescue and adoption for strays, the SPCA provides neutering, behavior consultation and training. PHOTO BY RACHEL THOMPSON

While shelter animals adjust to new homes, SPCA volunteers and staff members are also busy preventing other pets from being given up in the first place. Any pet owner can call the Animal Behavior Hotline (554-3000 on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 12 to 4 p.m.) and receive free step-by-step instructions on how to correct problems like harking, chewing, digging and house-soiling. Written material is also available.

The SPCA tries to place equal emphasis on the well-being of both animals and humans. One program that exemplifies this philosophy is Hearing Dogs for the Deaf. Since 1978, the program has rescued and trained almost 300 homeless and abandoned dogs and placed them with deaf and hearing-impaired citizens throughout California.

The hearing dogs in the program can be almost any breed or mixture. None is specially bred or donated for this purpose. All are shelter animals—at one time unwanted, lost or abandoned. After their basic obedience training, the dogs are trained to respond to particular sounds such as a knock at the door or doorbell, telephone ring, smoke alarm or oven timer. And if an owner prefers to communicate with sign language, the dog is trained to respond to commands by signal as well as voice.

Ralph Dennard, director of Hearing Dogs for the Deaf, says that deaf people living alone are the ones who benefit most from the program. "They receive not only a valuable working partner, but a companion," he says. "They have an immensely increased sense of security, independence and well-being."

Any California resident with a severe hearing loss who is 18 years or older may

be eligible to receive an SPCA hearing dog free of charge. (Recipients are required, however, to pay a class registration fee of \$100.) For information, call 554-3020 or the TTY number, 554-3022.

Lest animal lovers think dogs get preferential treatment from the SPCA, the Animal-Assisted Therapy Program makes use of a wide variety of animals, from guinea pigs to iguanas. More and more health care professionals are seeing remarkable benefits from the program. For example, just holding or stroking an animal may calm an anxious patient or "bring out" a withdrawn or isolated one.

Chris Shaheen, an SPCA animal-assisted therapy specialist, says that many of the animals used in the program are "exotic animals that are not necessarily suitable as pets but whose nature is suitable to new settings." She stresses that the program takes care not to compromise the animals' needs; they're not seen as "visiting therapists," but beings that are valued for the therapeutic side effect their presence evokes.

The increasing need for health care professionals trained in the care and handling of animals is also being met by the SPCA's educational workshops, in-service training programs, and university courses in animal-assisted therapy.

And the list of services goes on and on. In some parts of the country, the number of unwanted and abandoned animals has reached overwhelming proportions. But it appears that San Francisco is lucky enough to have an organization with the facilities and know-how to meet the problem with humane and creative solutions.

SPCA animal shelter hours are 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. daily.



SPCA volunteer Gary Fields extends a hand to help Haley, a saw-whet owl. Haley has only one working wing (she was hit by a car), but she now has a permanent home with other injured or abandoned animals at the center. PHOTO BY JIM BINDER

If she does, the agreement will then be submitted twice to the board of supervisors—once for approval of the dollar allocation and again for appointment of the SPCA as animal control officer.

"But whatever the outcome of the animal control proposal," Avanzino assures us, "SPCA's other programs—particularly aggressive adoption outreach to the neighborhoods—will in no way be affected." That's good news for Noe Valley. A lot of people would miss SPCA's

ers and pets started off on the right paw. A month of individualized instruction enhances pets' trust in their owners, which in turn helps them learn to willingly obey.

Gwen Bohnenkamp, director of the program, says that 100 percent of those people responding to recent evaluation forms have said the course is of great help. "It's important to sign up the first few weeks after adoption," she adds, "so that minor problems can be dealt with right away before they develop into major ones."

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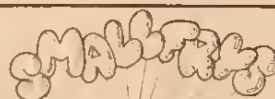
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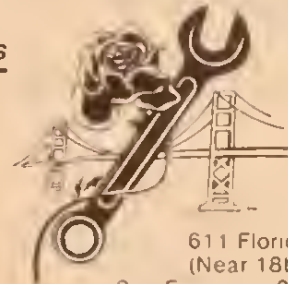
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and now for the RUMORS behind the news

By Mazook

THE CLASS OF '92. While most of the world bounced around in buggies, our Noe forefathers and mothers rode in the luxury, style and quiet of the Holman Car Co. electric trolley coach pictured at right. The Market Street Railway opened the Ferry Building to a Noe Valley route in the spring of 1892, featuring this "California-style" car, which had a closed middle section and open ends. The California-style car can still be seen on the California Street cable car line.

If you look closely at the picture, you can see that the conductor and motorman have just arrived at the end of the line at 24th and Hoffman streets. The trolley pole is facing west and the car is ready to head east. Twin Peaks can be seen in the background. Their route: from the Ferry Building downtown via Mission, 22nd, Chattanooga, 24th Street to Hoffman; returning via 24th Street, Dolores, 22nd, Mission to the Ferry Building.

According to Muni's community affairs man, Bob Callwell (who lives in Noe Valley), this route was later called the "11-line" and was in service 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In 1902 the California cars were replaced by the more conventional trolley cars that had enclosed passenger seating. Buses took over the 11-line in 1949, and the tracks were pulled up in the name of progress. (That's why the palm trees on Dolores between 24th and 22nd are shorter than the rest of the Dolores Street palms; they were planted in 1949 and are much younger.)

Bob notes that Noe Valley was also served by the Castro Street cable car line from circa 1890 to April 5, 1949. It ran up Market to Castro and out to 26th Street. The old cable car barn was located where the recently closed Little Bell Market stood (Castro near 24th).

Also, Bob points out that there were trolleys coming up 29th Street and that the San Francisco Municipal Railway opened the J-Church line on Aug. 11, 1917. But those ultra-modern LRVs that run today will never match the class and thrill of riding on the outside of the old California-style coach.

☎ ☎ ☎

THE CLASS OF '87: It's that time of year again. The fog starts rolling over Twin Peaks, the smell of burning charcoal briquettes wafts through the air, and school pals say goodbye for the summer.

At Alvarado Elementary School, graduation ceremonies for 80 fifth-graders will be held the last day of school, June 12, at 9:30 a.m.

According to teacher Pat Murray, who is in charge of the ceremony, the kids in Mr. Toolajian's music class will play a fanfare for the affair, the class of '87 will sing a few numbers, and then they'll receive academic and citizenship awards.

Pat says that his fifth-graders should be ready for the summer, having just read Mark Twain's *Tom Sawyer*. Also on the reading list was the Barthe DeClement classic *Sixth Grade Can Really Kill You*.

And it looks like some of the students at Alvarado may have patents pending



In an 1892 moment of pride, a conductor and motorman pause at the terminus of the then-new Noe Valley line, at 24th and Hoffman streets. At the other end of the line, trolley travelers connected with ferries to the East Bay.

after their grades are handed out. As part of the "Invent America Contest," the class came up with some great contraptions, several of which will be sent back to Washington, D.C. My favorite is Ben Mund's "Kitty-Koper," which is a mask you can wear when you go to bed; it allows you to breathe when the cat sleeps on your face.

Up on Diamond Street, St. Philip's will graduate 19 eighth-graders at 7:30 p.m. June 12 in St. Philip's Church. The class of '87 won six presidential academic fitness awards and reactivated the student council, which had been dormant for seven years.

School Principal Sister Patricia thinks that there will be a big boost in enrollment next year when St. Philip's starts an "extended care" program from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. for kids from two-career households.

☎ ☎ ☎

OVER AT JAMES LICK MIDDLE SCHOOL, the class of '87 honor roll looked like a directory from the United Nations Building: Bun Sun Chhan, Nathaniel Edwards, Xiao-Quing Guan, Ying Mak, Patricia Martin, Andre McArthur, Sergio Rivera, Soemijaty Soeganda, Taneka Tanner, and Sharon Wong. Whew.

Principal Alberto Aramendia expects 197 students to graduate on June 11 at 10 a.m. in Lick's auditorium. Aramendia is excited about presenting 22 Golden Skipper Awards to students with exceptional performance "in such things as honesty, perseverance, social skills, math, and music." The staff has even devised a student merit system that is

computerized.

For the first time, Lick students will give the Golden Apple Award to exceptional teachers. "It's my wife's idea," winks Al. "She's been doing it for several years at Mission High [where she's the principal]."

Golden Apple award winners at Lick this year are: Ronald Pang (special ed.), O.J. Mitchell (sixth-grade core), Lorraine Perry (science), Larry Richards (bilingual ed.), and Phil Murray (seventh-grade reading specialist).

Lastly, Lick's soccer team star Alvaro Guzman was selected for the U.S.A.'s 15-and-under team. He's off for training and preliminary matches in the Netherlands and Sweden, and finally to Moscow for the summer meet.

Immaculate Conception Academy (I.C.A.) graduated 70 seniors Friday, May 22, at St. Mary's Church. One of the awards presented at the ceremony was very practical—cash. The big winner, Carolina Oropeza, received \$2,000 from the U.C. Davis alumni, the Soroptimist Scholarship Committee, and the Administrative Management Society (who voted her Best Business Student of San Francisco).

The class of '87 distinguished itself by being the only one in the school's 103-year history to win the Most Spirited Class Award all four years at I.C.A.

San Francisco school chief Ramon Cortnes will return to his alma mater, Mission High School (class of '49), to deliver the keynote speech to 300 seniors at graduation ceremonies in the school auditorium June 11, 2 p.m.

Over \$6,000 in cash awards will be

presented at the ceremony to deserving seniors. Student body president and class valedictorian T'la Deiss is the odds-on favorite, having already won many awards this year.

"But we are really excited about our Step to College Program," says Principal Patricia Aramendia. "It's the only program of its kind in San Francisco." Last year San Francisco State professors came to Mission and taught college freshman courses to 109 "under-represented minorities" who had virtually no college prospects. "Now," beams Patricia, "70 of them are going to enter San Francisco State University, and 95 percent of the students in the program will be going to college."

Big bucks have gone to certain distinguished members of the class of '87 at McAteer High (in Diamond Heights). Brandeis University offered two full four-year scholarships (about \$60,000 each) to Peter Li and Jennifer Krool. New York University awarded senior Rueben Butchart a 10K scholarship, and the Berklee School of Music (in Boston, Mass.) awarded Joshua Workman \$3,000. The Elks Club gave Arthur Hayashi a \$1,000 award.

McAteer's graduation will take place June 12, 1:30 p.m., at San Francisco Civic Auditorium. According to coordinator Marigrace Cohen, the 350 grads will "have no keynote speakers but just a program by students about students."

☎ ☎ ☎

TO THE CLASS OF '87 I would only repeat some ideas of that great modern thinker, Buckminster Fuller, who said, "The most important fact about Spaceship Earth: an instruction book did not come with it. . . . We are not going to be able to operate our Spaceship Earth successfully nor for much longer unless we see it as a whole spaceship and our fate as common. It has to be everybody or nobody." Bye, kids. □

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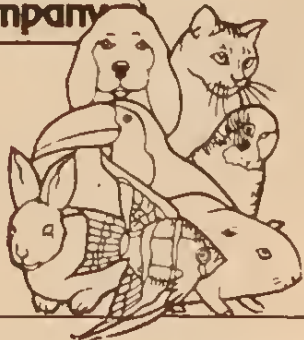
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MORE MOUTHS to feed

Kai Hermes Lukoff

When Christel Lukoff was pregnant, her husband David had a dream in which their child appeared as a little Buddha. For the rest of the pregnancy the Lukoffs dubbed their unborn offspring "Buddha Baby" and carried around a vision of birthing a wee one who would fit that image—a quiet, contemplative infant, perhaps one willing to meditate wisely during the day and sleep peacefully through the night.

On Aug. 19, 1986, at 4 a.m., 8-pound, 9-ounce Kai Hermes Lukoff was born at U.C.L.A. Medical Center, and it wasn't long before the Lukoffs gave their vociferous son a more appropriate nickname: "Kai-baby."

Christel, who works as a marriage, child and family counselor, has now concluded that Kai's "going to be a little fiery one." And David, also a psychologist, concurs: "He wants what he wants when he wants it." Kai's newest nickname, by the way, is "The Chancellor," after an ancestor on his mom's side—a real (though probably no more powerful) German chancellor of the late 1800s.

The Lukoffs, who moved from Los Angeles to their home on 29th Street last September, say the fun of watching Kai grow has outweighed the surprise of begetting a go-getter.



PHOTO BY JIM BINDER

"We get so excited by any little thing he does," says Christel. Mom and Dad are so charmed, in fact, that David admits, "I got up early this morning and put him at the bottom of the stairs just so I could watch him climb up them!"

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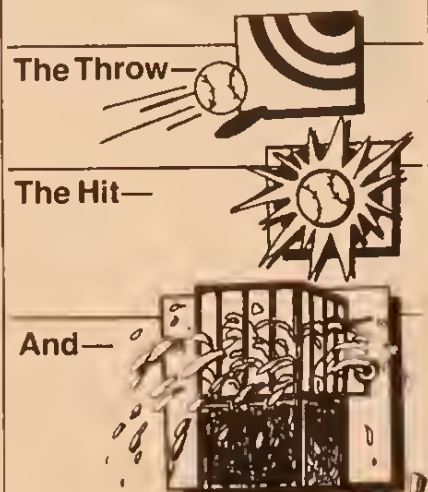
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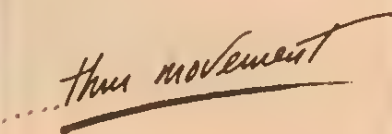
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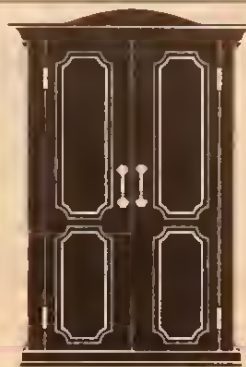
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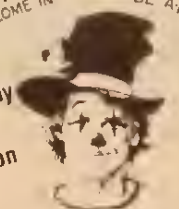
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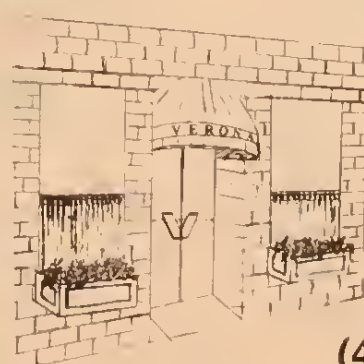
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CALENDAR

JUNE 26 & 27: Register for summer classes (July 6 - Aug. 29) at the SAN FRANCISCO COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER. Private lessons in piano, guitar, voice and many other instruments, as well as group classes in music theory, jazz ensemble and pre-instrumental instruction for children ages 2+ - 7. 544 Capp St. June 26, 2-6 p.m.; June 27, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. 647-6015

JUNE 1-14: The newly built THEATER DUANTAR presents "A Myth Cycle," modern myths as seen through the cracks of everyday life, with Laura Sherman, Andrea Weber and Yurg Montalla. 1760 Army St. 8:30 p.m. 386-1072

JUNE 3: PAINTING CLASS for ages 6-12. Eureka Valley Recreation Center, 18th & Collingwood streets. 3:45 p.m. 863-3531

JUNE 7: Australian filmmaker and activist John Seed premieres his new FILM, *Earth First*, documenting the action of Australian rain forest radicals. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 7 p.m. 282-2317

JUNE 8: An evening of POETRY with Rebecca Gordon (*Letters from Nicaragua*), Michael Massing, Ruth Schwartz and Steve Silberman. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m. 282-9246

JUNE 8: Bay Area Theatresports (BATS) hosts a monthly IMPROVISATIONAL THEATRE match replete with olympic teams and olympic-style judges and scorekeepers. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. 8 p.m. 824-4769.



Pianist Scott Cossu, one of the most lyrical of the Windham Hillbillies, graces the Noe Valley Music Series on June 6, in the company of New York guitarist Van Manakas. PHOTO BY JERRY GAY

JUNE 20: TUCK & PATTI, the great guitar-vocal duo, celebrate their upcoming album release with a special concert. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8:15 p.m. 282-2317

JUNE 21: Leather Daddy Tom Rodgers and Grand Duke XII host a FATHER'S DAY CELEBRATION with food, entertainment and auction. All proceeds to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund and the Godfather's Fund, a hospital support organization. San Francisco Eagle, 398 12th St. at Harrison. 3-6 p.m. 861-0516

JUNE 23: MAKE "A" CIRCUS presents "Abou's Journey," a circus tale set in the enchanted lands of the Arabian Nights. A crash course in esoteric circus skills follows, topped with a special Kid's Show put on by workshop participants. Dolores Park, 18th and Dolores streets. 12:30 p.m. 776-8477

JUNE 23: A book party/reading with ARMISTEAD MAUPIN, celebrating *Significant Others*, the latest in his popular *Tales of the City* saga. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m. 282-9246



Make "A" Circus premieres "Abou's Journey" and teaches circus skills at Dolores Park on June 23. PHOTO BY MICHAEL BRY

JUNE 24: Heartsaver CPR CLASS. St. Luke's Hospital, 3555 Army St. 6-9:30 p.m. 641-6605

JUNE 25: 80DK PARTY to celebrate the publication of *Sex Work: Writing by Women in the Sex Industry*, edited by Frederique Delacoste and Priscilla Alexander. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m. 821-4675

JUNE 26: Ninth annual GAY MUSICAL CELEBRATION, a one-evening-only musical extravaganza featuring a variety of local musical groups including The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, The Vocal Minority and many more. First Congregational Church, Post and Mason streets. 8 p.m. 861-4877

JUNE 28: Annual San Francisco LESBIAN/GAY FREEDOM DAY PARADE AND CELEBRATION with dancing, live entertainment and speakers. Parade begins from Market and Spear streets at 11 a.m. and ends at the Civic Center with entertainment from Noon-6 p.m. 647-3733

JUNE 30: "Kutintang" PHILIPPINE GONG MUSIC with Robert Kikuchi-Yn-gojo for ages 6 and older. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 2 p.m. 285-2788

JULY 1: Italian American poets LESLIE SCALAPINO, MARIA GILLAN and THERESA VINCEGUERRA read from their work. Bookworks of San Francisco, 2848 Mission St. 7:30 p.m. 648-3324

ONGOING: SUPPDRT GROUP for battered gay men, led by a licensed therapist. 7:30-9 p.m. CUAV Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project, 864-3112

JUNE 1987

JUNE 3, 10, 17: WOMEN WRITERS' WORKSHOP for older lesbians (60 plus) and friends, sponsored by Operation Concern. 1853 Market St. 6 p.m. 626-7000

JUNE 4: Two Noe Valley shops, the Mitre Box and Out of Hand, hold a BENEFIT for Coming Home Hospice. 4082 24th St. and 1303 Castro St. 6:30-9 p.m.

JUNE 4: POETRY READING by East Coast poet and Village Voice critic Dorothy Allison, author of *The Women Who Hate Me*. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m. 282-9246

JUNE 4, 5, 6, 7: A host of Asian American choreographers will premiere new works at this year's annual concert of UNBOUND SPIRIT, resident dance company of the Asian American Dance Collective. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. Thurs.-Sat., 8:30 p.m., Sun., 7 p.m. 552-8980

JUNE 4, 11, 18, 25: BELLYDANCE CLASSES for beginning and advanced students. Emphasis on traditional style and form—no cha-cha! Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8 p.m. 282-2317

JUNE 4-28: PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION: "Tracking the Epidemic: Five Years of the AIDS Crisis," features graphics, printed materials and video developed by two AIDS service organizations, the Gay Men's Health Crisis (NYC) and Terrence Higgins Trust (London). Eye Gallery, 758 Valencia St. Reception, June 5, 7 p.m.; panel discussion, June 26, 8 p.m. 431-6911

JUNE 6: Windham Hill Record's jazz artist SCOTT COSSU performs with his group featuring New York guitar flash Van Manakas and highlighting selections from his "Reunion," "Islands" and "Windance" recordings. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8:15 p.m. 282-2317

JUNE 8: A six-week session begins at BETH ABRAMS DANCE STUDIO, offering classes in jazz dance, jazz ballet, stretchaerobics and jazz for kids in a supportive, non-competitive atmosphere. 3435 Army St., Suite 208. 282-6177

JUNE 9: CARL ANDERSON talks about his experiences with the peace movement in New Zealand, the country that says no to nuclear weapons. War Resisters League/West, 942 Market St., Rm. 705. Pollack, 7 p.m.; program, 7:45 p.m. 433-6676

JUNE 9: Education forum on HOME HEALTH CARE, hospice care and health insurance claims and contracts, sponsored by Operation Concern. 1853 Market St. 1 p.m. 626-7000



Mona Chan of the Unbound Spirit dance company performs Anna Sun's "Moments," part of the company's annual repertory concert June 4-7 at the New Performance Gallery. PHOTO BY ALLEN NOMURA

JUNE 9: FILM PROGRAM for ages 3-5: "Curious George Goes to the Hospital," "Harold's Fair Tale," and "Let's Give Kitty a Bath." Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 10 & 11 a.m. 285-2788

JUNE 9: FILM PROGRAM for ages 6 and older: "New Friends" and "Boys and Girls." Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 3:30 p.m. 285-2788

JUNE 10: Book party and POETRY READING with Dorianne Laux, Kim Addonizio and Laurie Duesing celebrates the publication of *Three West Coast Women* put out by Five Fingers Press. Bookworks of San Francisco, 2848 Mission St. 7 p.m. 648-3324

JUNE 11: ADRIENNE RICH, author of 13 books of poetry and three books of prose, reads poems in celebration of Lesbian and Gay Freedom. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m. 821-4675

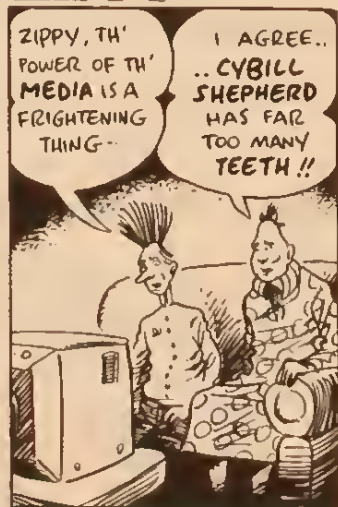
JUNE 11: "RACIAL/SEXUAL POLITICS, DF AIDS," a panel discussion with Maria Camacho, Amanda Houston, Miguel Ramirez and Marcos Rodriguez to benefit sex education in Mexico City. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m. 282-9246

JUNE 11: A journey through Hopi thought during an evening of poetry and music by RAMON LDMATEWAMA, author of *Silent Winds: Poetry of One Hopi*. Bookworks of San Francisco, 2848 Mission St. 7:30 p.m. 648-3324

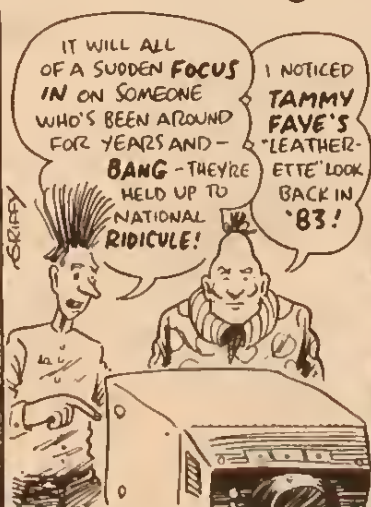
JUNE 12 & 13: Pledge of Resistance PROTEST RALLY against weapons shipments to El Salvador. Concord Naval Weapons Station (shuttles from Concord BART to naval station available). All-day resistance activities begin at 7 a.m. June 12. Candlelight Vigil, 8 p.m.; June 13: Religious Peace Procession, 10 a.m.; Rally, 11 a.m.; Civil Disobedience and Legal Protest, Noon. 655-1177

JUNE 13: San Francisco Community Music Center celebrates its 65th anniversary with an OPEN HOUSE AND STUDENT CONCERT featuring music ranging from ragtime to European classical. 544 Capp St. 3 p.m. 647-6015

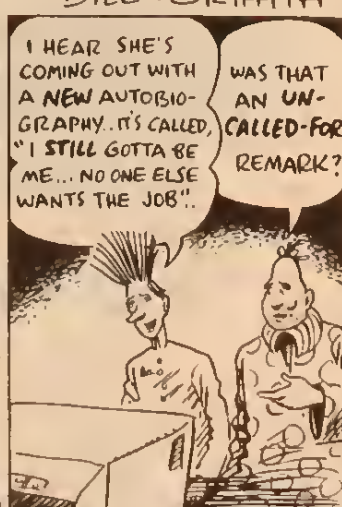
ZIPPY



"INQUIRING MINDS"



BILL GRIFFITH



The Scoop on CALENDAR

Please send calendar items before the 15th day of the month preceding month of issue to the *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Items are published on a space-available basis, with Noe Valley neighborhood events receiving priority. Please note: Our next issue, which will cover both July and August, will appear July 1. The deadline for calendar items is June 15.